a card having a predetermined value for insertion into said card reader;

wherein when said card is inserted into said card reader, said card reader verifies that said predetermined value is at least a selected minimum value and authorizes said player to decipher said first recording medium.

10.   (Twice Amended) A method for recording and playing digital signals, comprising:

receiving an encrypted digital signal comprising a broadcast segment;

storing said encrypted digital signal in a buffer as it is being received;

determining whether a beginning of said broadcast segment is in said buffer in response to a user request to record said encrypted digital signal;

recording said encrypted digital signal onto a first recording medium in a recorder and player device if said beginning of said broadcast segment is stored in said buffer;

inserting a card having at least a predetermined value into said recorder and player device;

determining that said predetermined value corresponds to at least a selected minimum value; and

deciphering said encrypted digital signal if said card has said selected minimum value.

13.   (Twice Amended) A method for recording and playing an encrypted digital audio broadcast signal, comprising:

receiving an encrypted digital audio broadcast signal comprising a broadcast segment;

storing at least part of said encrypted digital audio broadcast signal in a buffer as it is being received;

electing to record said encrypted digital audio broadcast signal onto a first recording medium;

determining whether a beginning of said broadcast segment is in said buffer; and

recording said encrypted digital audio broadcast signal onto said first recording medium if said beginning of said broadcast segment is stored in said buffer.

Please add the following new claims: